

NORTHERN NEVADA ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
POLICY AND PROCEDURE DIRECTIVE

SUBJECT: PHARMACEUTICAL SAMPLES

NUMBER: NN-MM-13

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APPROVAL: Rosalyn Reynolds {s}, Agency Director

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish policies and procedures for handling, storage, and distribution of sample pharmaceuticals at Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS).

II. DEFINITIONS

A sample pharmaceutical is one that is supplied at no cost by the manufacturer in limited quantities for use on a trial basis. Samples are not intended for use over a prolonged period of time. Samples allow the prescriber and the consumer to experience new products without the expense.

III. REFERENCES

1. NAC 639 Institutional Pharmacy Regulations
2. Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987

3. NNAMHS Policy and Procedure Directive #NN-MM-06 entitled, "Inpatient Personal Medications."

IV. POLICY

It is the policy of NNAMHS that samples will be regulated by the pharmacy and that the procurement and storage of samples shall conform to Federal and State statutes and regulations.

V. PROCEDURE

1. These procedures apply to both inpatient and outpatient consumers served by the NNAMHS pharmacy, including those of other State agencies.
2. Sample Medication will be distributed or dispensed only through the pharmacy.
 - a. All samples will be stored in the pharmacy.
 - b. All sample use will be documented in the pharmacy.
 - c. Storage of samples will be in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
3. Consumers will begin on an adequate trial of no more than 30 days supply of sample medication. Sample supplies will not be utilized for continuing therapy.
4. Sample medications will be ordered under the name and signature of a NNAMHS physician. The samples will be shipped directly to the NNAMHS pharmacy for maintenance, distribution and dispensing.
5. All sample medications brought in with consumers admitted to the hospital will be handled according to NNAMHS Policy #NN-MM-06, entitled "Inpatient Personal Medications".
6. The policy is within all Federal and State laws and regulations controlling sample prescription medications.